

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

**SUBJECT: CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION**

DATE: 04-14-04

Approved

Date

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide
SNI AREA: N/A

RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit the application to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) for a one-year federal grant not to exceed \$128,307 for the Senior Companion Program (SCP); and if the grant is awarded, authorize the City Manager to accept the grant funds and to negotiate and execute all agreements.
2. Authorize the City Manager to accept grant funds and execute a grant agreement and to negotiate and execute all agreements supplementing the grant agreement to the extent consistent with this memo if grant is awarded.

BACKGROUND

CNCS came in being when President Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. CNCS organizes its federal programs into three streams of service: The National Senior Service Corps, Learn and Serve America and AmeriCorps. The National Senior Corps bring the skills, energy and creativity of half a million older Americans to bear on important community problems through its three programs: Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

SCP is currently in its eighteenth program year with the City of San José. Administered through the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, this program provides volunteer opportunities for persons 60 years of age and older. SCP will provide in-home assistance and companionship to English and Spanish as well as Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Japanese and Russian speaking frail seniors residing in the Greater San Jose Area. These homebound seniors may have physical, cognitive or emotional impairments. The goal is to improve the quality of life for these homebound seniors and promote independent

living through personal care, nutrition, social and recreational activities, home management, information and advocacy, and respite to family members or caregivers who find it difficult to provide the level of support needed to prevent institutionalization.

ANALYSIS

This Department's estimated SCP budget is \$263,823 for the period July 01, 2004, to June 30, 2005. SCP is anticipated to receive \$ 128,307 from CNCS. The estimated amount of matching City funds required is \$83,516. SCP is anticipated to receive \$52,000 from the Healthy Neighborhood Venture Fund. The proposed budget will provide 41,600 service hours 120 frail seniors and their families for the period July 01, 2004, to June 30, 2005. Community based organizations that are currently served as volunteer stations:

- Asian American Community for Involvement (for Mandarin and Cantonese speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Catholic Charities Day Break II Asian Elder Respite and Caregiver Support Services (for Vietnamese, Mandarin and Chinese speaking frail seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)
- Catholic Charities John XXIII Neighborhood Center (for Vietnamese speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley (for Russian and Bosnian speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Korean American Community Services (for Korean speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Live Oak Adult Day Services (for English speaking frail seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)
- Mexican American Community Services Agency (for Spanish speaking frail seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)
- Peninsula Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (for English speaking visually impaired seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)
- Portuguese Organization for Social Services and Opportunities (for Portuguese speaking frail homebound seniors)

SCP staff recruits English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Russian, or Portuguese speaking independent seniors age 60 or over and trains them as Senior Companions. After successfully completing the training program, the seniors are then deployed to a volunteer station under the supervision of the volunteer station supervisor. The grant pays for stipend pay and expense reimbursement for the recruits under federal rules. The City provides a staffing match to administer the program as part of its budget.

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PUBLIC OUTREACH

An integral part of the program is ongoing recruitment of new volunteers, as well as establishing new volunteer stations Citywide.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and the City Manager's Budget Office.

COST IMPLICATIONS

The matching funds for the SCP program have been funded in the FY 2003-2004 Adopted Operating Budget and are programmed as an ongoing expenditure.

CEQA

Not a project.

SARA L. HENSLEY
Director of Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services